S1385-1
2/21/90

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SEPTEMBER 1989

(For Fiscal Year July 1989 through June 1990)

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANTS - STATISTICAL REPORT

Prepared by
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Bureau of Human Services Planning
DHSS Campus
New Castle, Delaware

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35-01-40-90-01-04

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - STATE FUNDS

Fiscal Year 1990 - 25% Of The Year

September 1989

CATEGORY	AVAILABLE FOR YEAR	DISBURSED/ ENCUMBERED	UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	DISBURSED FUNDS AS PERCENT OF AVAILABLE FUNDS
AFDC	$ 12,677,500	$ 2,976,785	$ 9,700,715	23.5%
General Assistance	1,545,000	367,063	1,177,937	23.8%
Emergency Assistance	217,000	43,400	173,600	20.0%
SSI Supplementation	911,300	244,806	666,494	26.9%
TOTAL	$ 15,350,800	$ 3,632,054	$ 11,718,746	23.7%

Source: Statement of Appropriations and Account Balances

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MONTHLY STATISTICS

	July 1989	August	September
AFDC REGULAR:			
Payments	$2,053,761	$2,100,661	$2,233,216
Cases	7,305	7,535	7,635
Children	12,878	13,406	13,499
Recipients	18,796	19,488	19,629
AFDC-UP:			
Payments	$10,815	$11,796	$13,305
Cases	38	46	45
Children	81	96	97
Recipients	144	174	173
TOTAL AFDC:			
Payments	$2,064,576	$2,112,457	$2,246,521
Cases	7,343	7,581	7,680
Children	12,959	13,502	13,596
Recipients	18,940	19,662	19,802
GENERAL ASSISTANCE:			
Payments	$122,509	$123,606	$127,355
Cases	1,019	1,041	1,057
Children	430	438	556
Recipients	1,212	1,235	1,262
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:			
Payments	$21,683	$37,712	$32,651
Cases	152	254	224
FOOD STAMPS:			
Payments	$1,522,688	$1,547,907	$1,576,064
Cases	10,904	11,217	11,208
Recipients	29,441	30,286	30,262
SSI STATE SUPPLEMENTATION:			
Payments	$58,834	$59,412	$58,688
Cases-Recipients	483	488	484
SSI FEDERAL PAYMENTS ONLY:			
Payments	$1,572,039	$1,566,992	$1,575,071
Cases-Recipients	7,441	7,441	7,455
TOTAL SSI:			
Payments	$1,630,873	$1,626,404	$1,633,759
Cases-Recipients	7,543	7,544	7,559

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CUMULATIVE STATISTICS

	September 1989 Fiscal Year to Date	September 1988 Fiscal Year to Date	% Change
AFDC REGULAR			
Payments	$6,387,638	$5,948,812	7.4%
Cases	7,492	7,396	1.3%
Payments/Case	$284.21	$268.11	6.0%
Children	13,261	13,050	1.6%
Recipients	19,304	19,063	1.3%
Payments/Recipient	$110.30	$104.02	6.0%
AFDC-UP			
Payments	$35,916	$33,505	7.2%
Cases	43	40	7.5%
Payments/Case	$278.42	$276.90	0.5%
Children	91	87	4.6%
Recipients	164	152	7.9%
Payments/Recipient	$73.15	$73.64	-0.7%
TOTAL AFDC			
Payments	$6,423,554	$5,982,317	7.4%
Cases	7,535	7,436	1.3%
Payments/Case	$284.18	$268.16	6.0%
Children	13,352	13,136	1.6%
Recipients	19,468	19,214	1.3%
Payments/Recipient	$109.98	$103.78	6.0%
GENERAL ASSISTANCE			
Payments	$373,470	$389,265	-4.1%
Cases	1,039	1,055	-1.5%
Payments/Case	$119.82	$122.99	-2.6%
Children	475	470	1.1%
Recipients	1,236	1,284	-3.7%
Payments/Recipient	$100.69	$101.06	-0.4%

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CUMULATIVE STATISTICS

	September 1989 Fiscal Year to Date	September 1988 Fiscal Year to Date	% Change
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE			
Payments	$92,046	$80,223	14.7%
Cases	210	183	14.8%
Payments/Case	$146.11	$146.39	-0.2%
FOOD STAMPS			
Payments	$4,646,659	$4,326,225	7.4%
Cases	11,110	10,655	4.3%
Payments/Case	$139.42	$135.35	3.0%
Recipients	29,996	28,768	4.3%
Payments/Recipient	$51.64	$50.13	3.0%
SSI STATE SUPPLEMENTATION			
Payments	$176,934	$182,431	-3.0%
Cases-Recipients	485	501	-3.2%
Payments/Case-Recipient	$121.60	$121.38	0.2%
SSI FEDERAL PAYMENTS ONLY			
Payments	$4,714,102	$4,586,228	2.8%
Cases-Recipients	7,446	7,518	-1.0%
Payments/Case-Recipient	$211.04	$203.35	3.8%
TOTAL SSI			
Payments	$4,891,036	$4,768,659	2.6%
Cases-Recipients	7,549	7,622	-1.0%
Payments/Case-Recipient	$215.98	$208.55	3.6%

NOTE: All cumulative statistics other than expenditures represent monthly averages.

COMPARATIVE CASE LOADS BY CATEGORY AND COUNTY

SEPTEMBER 1989

		Total State	New Castle	Kent	Sussex
AFDC Regular:	Cases	7,635	4,941	1,436	1,258
	Recipients	19,629	12,630	3,786	3,213
AFDC-UP:	Cases	45	29	10	6
	Recipients	173	116	33	24
Total AFDC:	Cases	7,680	4,970	1,446	1,264
	Recipients	19,802	12,746	3,819	3,237
General Assistance:	Cases	1,057	733	158	166
	Recipients	1,262	851	181	230
Emergency Assistance:	Cases	224	137	36	51
Food Stamps:	Cases	11,208	6,664	2,459	2,085
	Recipients	30,262	17,993	6,639	5,630
SSI State Supplementation:	Cases-Recipients	484	249	72	163
SSI Federal Payments:	Cases-Recipients	7,455	3,962	1,600	1,893
Total SSI:	Cases-Recipients	7,559	4,017	1,615	1,927

S1385-1 A

2/21/90

DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Distribution

VIA: Linda Barnett

FROM: Paula Jones PJ 1073

DATE: February 2, 1990

RE: Highlights of Statistical Report on Public Assistance Grants Programs: July - September 1989.

TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE EXPENDITURES

For the second year in a row, total public assistance expenditures increased during the first quarter of SFY 1989 as compared to the previous year. Over $16.4 million in benefits, including Federal and State funding, was paid to Delaware public assistance recipients during the first three months of SFY 1990. This represents a 5.7% increase ($880,076) from the same period in SFY 1989.

State government spending,which is associated with all programs except the Food Stamp program, increased at a lower rate: 3.1%. State spending in the first quarter amounted to 23.7% of the annual State appropriation for the four State-funded public assistance programs.

These spending increases can be attributed largely to benefit increases combined with a slowing or reversal in declining caseloads.

AFDC PROGRAM

In the first quarter of SFY 1990, there was a reversal of a downward trend in AFDC participation evident from SFY 1986 through SFY 1989. Specifically, the average monthly AFDC caseload increased 1.3% during this period, reaching a level of 7,535 cases. The number of recipients increased at the same rate, to a level of 19,468. Figure 1 illustrates this slight upswing in AFDC participation.

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At the same time, a 6% increase in the average monthly payment per recipient occurred (along with an equivalent increase in the average monthly payment per case). A 4% increase in the AFDC payment level which became effective in October 1988 is largely responsible for these increases.

The total AFDC expenditures in this period - roughly $6.4 million - reflect a 7.4% increase over spending in the first quarter of SFY 1989. While AFDC expenditures for this quarter first exhibited an increase in SFY 1988, this current increase is much more significant than that exhibited in SFY 1988 (1.8%).

Rising expenditures can be attributed to the effect of annual benefit increases which are magnified by the slight increase in caseloads. Figure 2 reveals the upturn in AFDC expenditures in this quarter, which brought spending back up to SFY 1986 levels.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Reductions in General Assistance participation appear to be leveling off. That is, there was a decline in the General Assistance Caseload between the first quarters of SFY 1989 and SFY 1990, but this amounted to only 1.5%. In addition, the average monthly number of GA recipients decreased by a greater, but still small, amount: 3.7%. These reductions contrast with reductions occurring over the first quarters in SFY 1986-1989, particularly the earlier reductions. Reductions affecting caseloads in those years ranged from 22.2% in SFY 1987 TO 2.5% in SFY 1989, while reductions in recipient counts ranged from 29% in SFY 1986 to 5.4% in SFY 1988. These trends are illustrated in Figure 3.

During this quarter, there was also a 2.6% reduction in the average payment per case ($122.99). This is related to a 2.3% drop in the average number of members in a case.

General Assistance expenditures for the first quarter of SFY 1990 totaled $373,470. This represents a 4.1% decrease ($15,795) over spending for the same period in SFY 1989. However, these savings are much less significant than those occurring before SFY 1989, as shown in Figure 4.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Emergency Assistance expenditures increased 14.7% in this quarter after declining in SFY'88 and SFY'89 (See figure 5). This increase reflected a nearly identical increase in the Emergency Assistance caseload. There was no change in payments per case.

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

The Food Stamp program exhibited increases in case and recipient counts for the second year in a row. During the first quarter of SFY'90, both the average monthly number of cases (11,110) and the average monthly number of recipients (29,996) increased 4.3% - almost the same rate of increase that occurred in the same period in SFY'89. Food Stamp participation statistics for the past five years are presented in Figure 7.

In addition, the average cost per Food Stamp household increased 3%, from $135.35 to $139.42, during this period. This increase is typical in that increases of this amount or slightly less have occurred in the past five years, with the exception of the quarter ending September 1988. (A 10.3% increase occurred in that quarter owing to a 7% increase in benefit levels effective in Federal Fiscal Year 1988.)

The growth in participation in combination with slightly greater benefit levels resulted in a 7.4% increase in Food Stamp expenditures in this quarter. Figure 8 indicates that Food Stamp expenditures have climbed to levels last evident in State Fiscal Year 1986.

SSI EXPENDITURES

Total SSI spending continued to increase during the first quarter of SFY 1990. Total SSI expenditures of $4.9 million represent a 2.6% increase over spending in the first quarter of SFY 1989. This reflects a 3.6% increase in the average payment per recipient, but a 1% decrease in the average monthly number of recipients.

SSI Federal cases, cases receiving part or all of their benefits from Federal sources, constitute the major component of the SSI program and exhibited similar changes to those mentioned above. The average number of recipients decreased 1.%, while average payment per recipient rose 3.8% (reflecting a 4.% increase in the Federal Benefit Rate as of January 1989). As a result, total expenditures increased 2.8%.

The changes in the SSI State Supplementation program caseload were slightly more significant than the changes in the SSI Federal component. Specifically, there was a 3.2% decrease in the average monthly number of recipients in this program (485 persons in this quarter). (See Figure 10)

On the other hand, the average monthly payment per recipient remained nearly constant.

As a result, SSI State Supplementation payments ($176,934) decreased 3% from the same period in SFY 1989. This represents the first decrease in spending since SFY'86 (Figure 9).

Figure 1

AFDC Participation

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

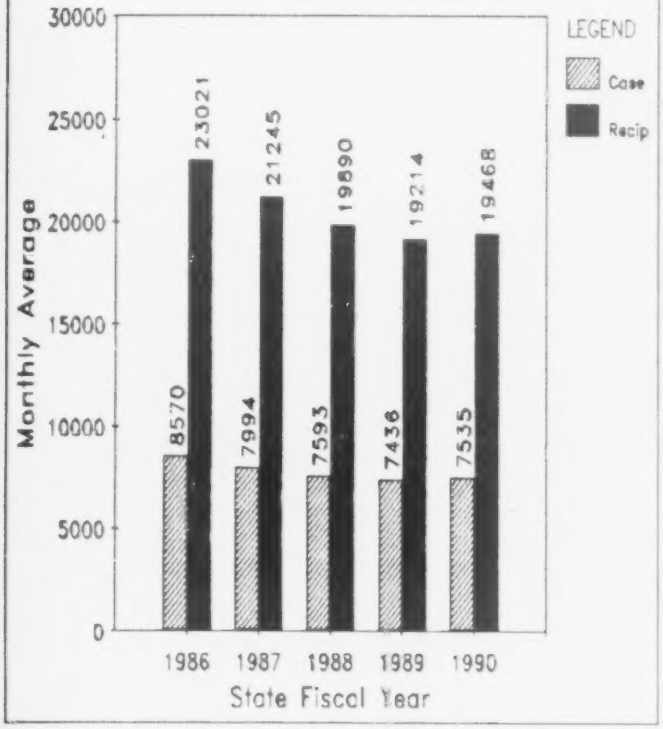

Figure 2

AFDC Expenditures

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

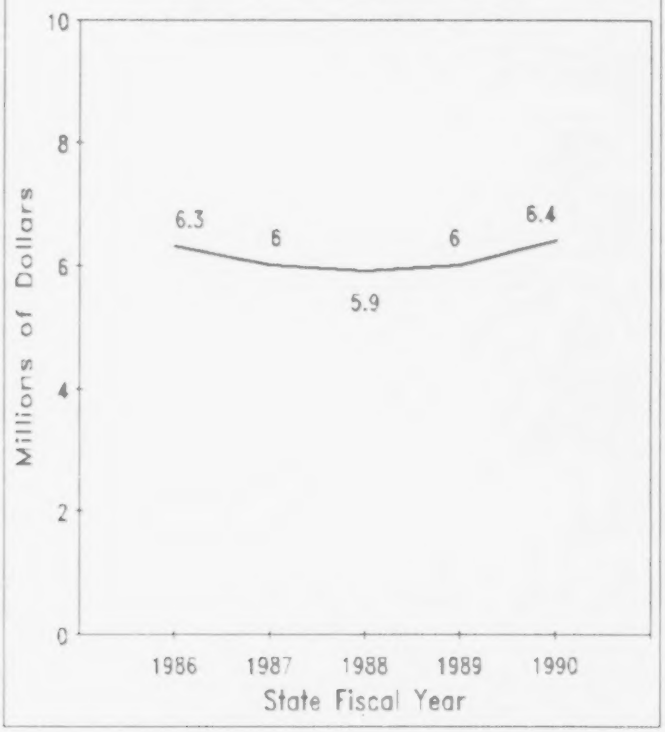

Figure 3

General Assistance Participation

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

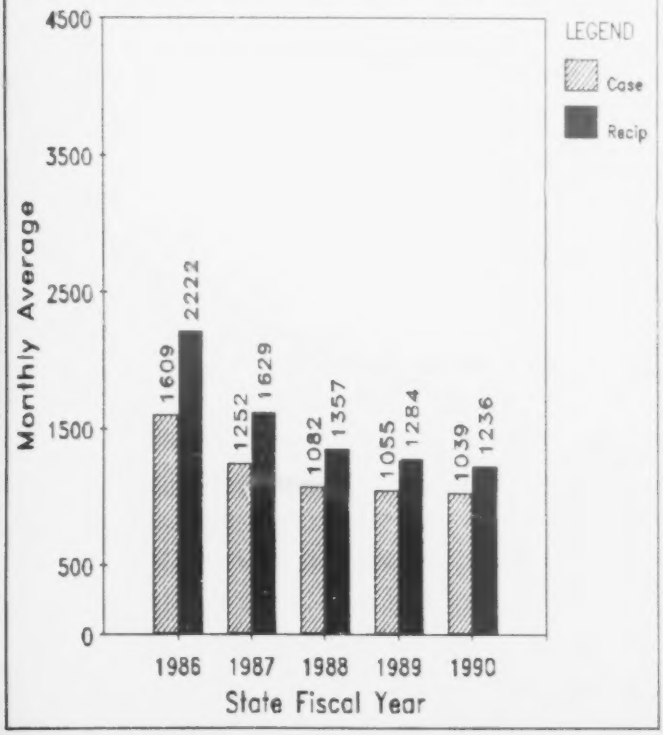

Figure 4

General Assistance Expenditures

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

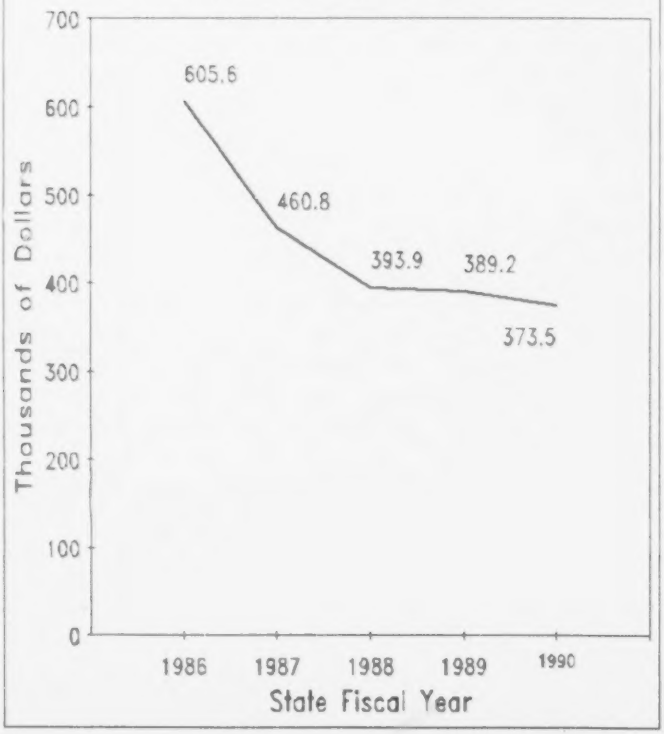

Figure 5

Emergency Assistance Expenditures

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

Figure 6

Emergency Assistance Participation

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

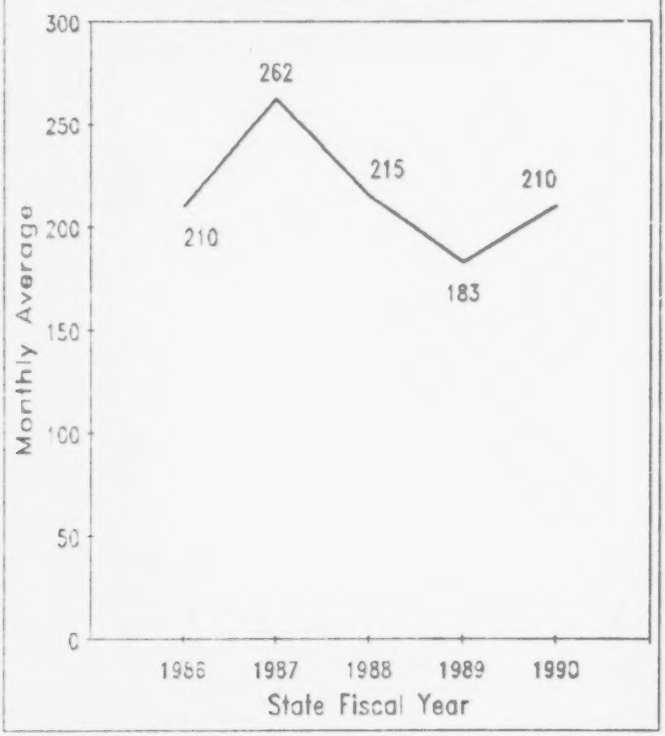

Figure 7

Food Stamp Participation

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

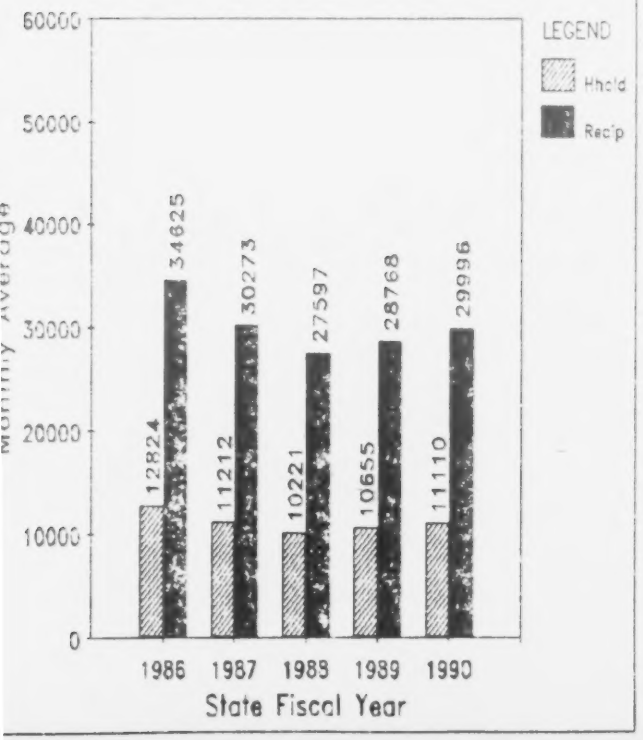

Figure 8

Food Stamp Expenditures

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

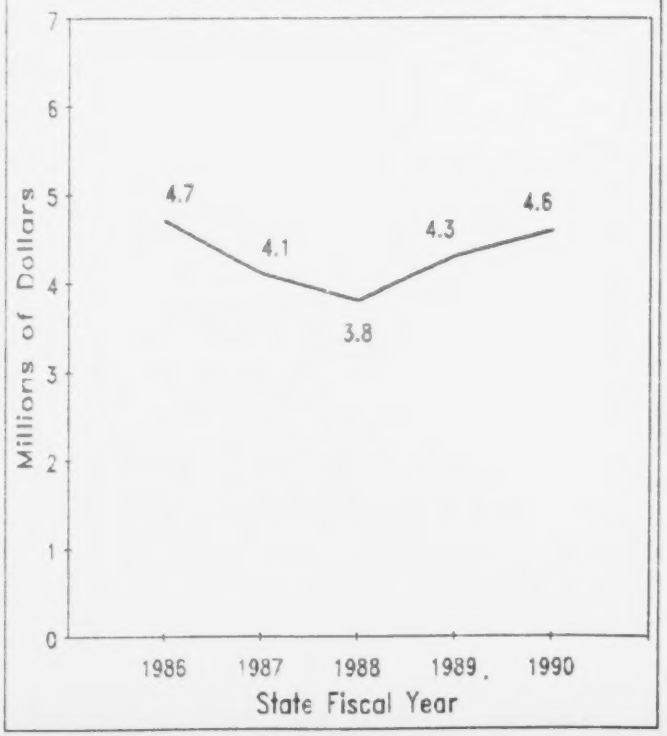

Figure 9

SSI State Supplementation Expenditures

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

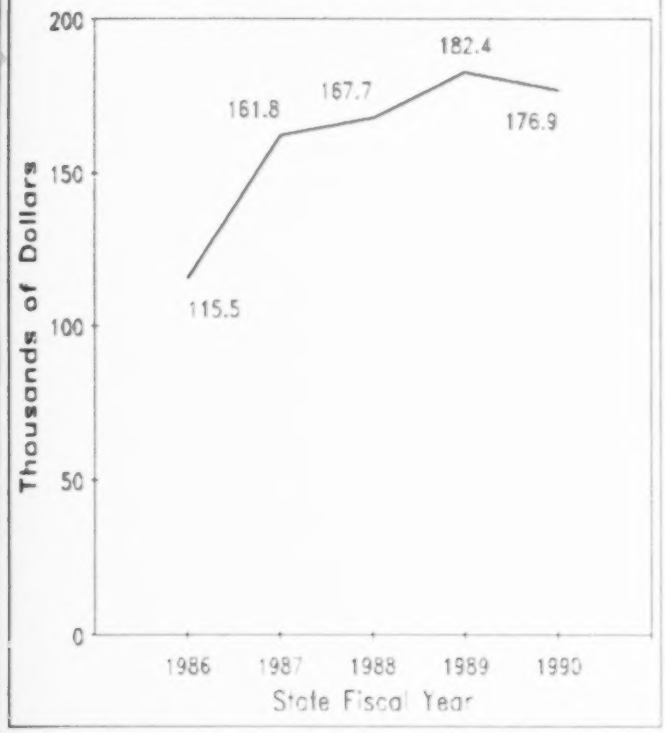

Figure 10

SSI State Supplementation Cases

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990